



St James' RC Primary Weekly Newsletter

Thursday 28th March 2024

Twitter: @stjamesrc

Issue 23

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,
You will shortly receive letters from the class teachers, if you have not already received them, summarising the spring term and explaining what each class has been doing. I hope that you find the letters interesting. Everyone has obviously been very busy!

As promised, I would like to share the results of our KS2 Anti bullying Questionnaire that the children took part in recently. 100% of the children were able to say who they would tell if they were being bullied in school and 100% knew what to do if they saw someone being bullied. 96% said that they felt that the adults in school dealt very well with bullying incidents. The five children who did not agree with this were all spoken to about what could be done differently. They felt that staff listened but that things did not always get sorted out. 99% said that they had not seen any other children being bullied. The one child who said that they had seen bullying taking place was asked about the incident so that it could be investigated. Two children said that they were being bullied. These children have both been spoken to individually. They are being closely monitored and their parents are being kept up to date.

Thank you to everyone who returned the Catholic Children's Society Boxes. We are pleased to say that we have raised an incredible £1050.69. Well done to Logan in Y3 who collected £23.50 by selling PomPoms.

We started the week with a wonderful dance performance by Harlequins Dance. The children who took part have clearly had a great term and really do love their dance. A huge thank you to them for a superb start to the week.

On Monday, Create Club led an assembly to show

children what the focus will be in the summer term. There will be lots of creative activities linked to science and we very much look forward to seeing what the children produce. Please see the summer term club information that has been sent out today.

Well done to everyone who took part in the Reading Passport Challenge and received their bronze, silver or gold certificates this week.



On Tuesday, Reception class visited the London Sea Life Aquarium. It was a fantastic day and the children were so well behaved on the train and when they were walking through busy London. At the aquarium we were in awe of all the sea creatures that we saw. Thankfully nobody got eaten by a shark! The weather stayed fine so we had lunch in the park and came home with very tired feet but smiles on our faces.





Year 5 performed The Passion Play on Wednesday morning. They were able to tell the story so powerfully and confidently. Well done Year 5. I know that staff and parents were extremely impressed by the performance and I want to thank Year 5 for bringing The Easter Story to life. It will have certainly helped the younger children to understand the story.



Year 5 also brought into school their Easter Gardens this week and it is obvious that they have worked so hard on these. The Easter Gardens have been displayed in the hall all week for staff, children, parents and visitors to see. Everyone has been amazed at the level of detail. Thank you to Year 5 for all their continued hard work and to Mrs Wilson for organising The Passion Play and The Easter Gardens.



Thank you to the parents who attended the Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Meeting this week and thank you to Mrs Martin for organising this. I am very grateful to the parents who make time to attend the meetings. I value the importance of these discussions and I feel honoured to be part of the conversations. Please let Mrs Martin know if you would like to attend the next meeting on Tuesday 4th June at 5pm.

In today's Bank of America session Y6 learnt about different sources of income. They also learnt about Tax and National Insurance contributions and how this money is spent by the government.



Thank you to the PTA who organised a fantastic Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday morning for KS1. It looked like so much fun!



The KS2 children took part in a Geography Orienteering Quiz on Thursday. Thank you to Miss Spencer-Boyce who organised this.

I held a Student Council Meeting this week and it was great to hear about the children's ideas about recycling clothes. Please see the attached minutes.

Please see the information about the summer term clubs that is being sent out to you. We are pleased to be able to offer such a wide selection of extracurricular clubs.

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Draper and Mrs Barrett at the end of this term. Both members of staff first became part of the St James' community when their children started at the school many years ago. They then both worked as mid-day supervisors and at Breakfast and After School Club and have always worked so hard for the children. We will miss them very much but are very excited for them as they both start work in local preschools. I want to thank them for their dedication and hard work over the many years and I very much hope that they stay in touch with us. Good luck Mrs Draper and Mrs Barrett.

I wish you and your families a restful Easter break and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 15th April ready for the summer term. Hopefully, the children will be able to return to school after Easter in their summer uniforms although if the weather continues to be this cold the children can continue to wear winter uniforms until the end of April. Please see the attached uniform policy.

"Living Holy Week following Jesus means learning how to come out of ourselves to reach out to others, to go to the outskirts of existence, to be the first to move towards our brothers and sisters, especially those who are most distant, those who are most forgotten, those who are the most in need of understanding, consolation and help. There is so much need to bring the living presence of Jesus, merciful and full of love." Pope Francis

God bless,

Mrs Weeks

Word on Wednesday

The Wednesday Word is EASTER. This Sunday we remember and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. After Jesus had died, the disciples were afraid that the people who had crucified him would now be looking for them too. Jesus' resurrection and miraculous appearance would have encouraged the disciples. The children understand that when they listen to Jesus, they are filled with words of encouragement.

Safeguarding

Please see the following link to Young Minds. This is an organisation that wants to support children and young people with their mental health and can be a very useful source of information.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/>

Dates for your Diary

April

Monday 15th Children return and can wear summer uniform
Tuesday 16th 2:30 Y6 Parent Meeting about SATS
Friday 19th Y5 Natural History Museum Sleepover
Monday 22nd Stephen Lawrence Day (Promoting Peace)
Tuesday 23rd St George's Day (Uniform Groups can wear their uniforms)
Tuesday 23rd 6:30 PTA Meeting
Thursday 25th Y6 Bank of America
Thursday 25th 2:45 Y1 Parent meeting about Phonics
Friday 26th Y5 visit Petts Wood Library

May

Wednesday 1st Children all now wearing summer uniform
Thursday 2nd Y5 Bromley High
Thursday 2nd Y6 Bank of America
Friday 3rd Y4 visit Petts Wood Library
Monday 6th Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th -Friday 10th Rosary Week
Tuesday 7th 10:15 school saying Rosary
Wednesday 8th VE Day
Thursday 9th Ascension Day Holy Day of Obligation Whole School Mass Year 5
Friday 10th Y2 visit Petts Wood Library

Monday 13th –Thursday 16th Year 6 SATs
Wednesday 15th Y4 Dulwich Picture Gallery
Friday 17th Y3 visit Petts Wood Library
Monday 21st Y5/Y6 Cricket Competition
Tuesday 21st PTA Own clothes
Wednesday 22nd History Day
Thursday 23rd Whole School Mass May Procession Year 3
Thursday 23rd Y5/Y6 Cricket competition
Friday 24th: 9:05 Y1 Class assembly
Friday 24th Y1 visit Petts Wood Library
Friday 24th Catholic School Junior Athletics
Friday 24th P4C afternoon
Saturday 25th Bromley Planter Competition
Monday 27th- Friday 31st Half term

June

Monday 3rd INSET day
Thursday 6th Y6 Bank of America
Friday 7th Mini Vinnies Mass, St George's Cathedral
Friday 7th Y6 visit Petts Wood Library
Saturday 8th Holy Communion
Monday 10th Year 1 and Year 2 Phonic Check week
Monday 10th Y6 Junior Citizen Week
Wednesday 12th 6:30 pm New Reception 2024 Parent Meeting
Thursday 13th KS2 Athletics Norman Park
Saturday 15th First Holy Communion
Wednesday 19th Class Photographer
Friday 21st Bromley Make Music Day
Friday 21st 9:05 Rec Class Assembly
Saturday 22nd Windrush Day
Saturday 22nd PTA Summer Fair
Saturday 22nd Holy Communion
Monday 24th Sports Day
Monday 24th –Friday 28th Sports Week
Friday 28th Reserve Sports Day
Friday 28th Year 4 Sleepover

July

Tuesday 2nd 2pm New Reception children visit/ Meet the teacher
Wednesday 3rd 2pm New Reception children visit/ Meet the teacher
Thursday 4th Y3 Class Mass (Holy Communion)
Thursday 4th and Friday 5th Cricket at Beckenham
Friday 5th Rec visit Petts Wood Library
Friday 5th Reports to parents
Tuesday 9th 6:30 PTA Meeting
Wednesday 10th 1:15 Drama Kids Assembly
Thursday 11th Yr 6 Bank of America visit
Friday 12th KS2 Reading Passports in
Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th Yr 6

Production 7pm
 Tuesday 16th KS2 Reading Passport Assembly
 Thursday 18th 3:30-5:30 Walk Around Evening
 Friday 19th Summer Walk 9:15
 Wednesday 24th 10 am Whole School Mass
 Leavers (Yr 6)
 Wednesday 24th Last day of term at normal time

Library News

Thurs 4th April
 10-11am
 Eid and Ramadan Storytime and Craft Event
 Age Range: 4-7s and parents/carers
 To Book: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>

Mon 8th April
 2-3pm
 Easter Storytime and Craft Event
 Age Range: 4-7s and parents/carers
 To Book: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>

Thurs 11th April
 10.30-11.30am
 Author Event: Penny Chrimmes
 Age Range: 8+ and parents/carers
 To Book: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>

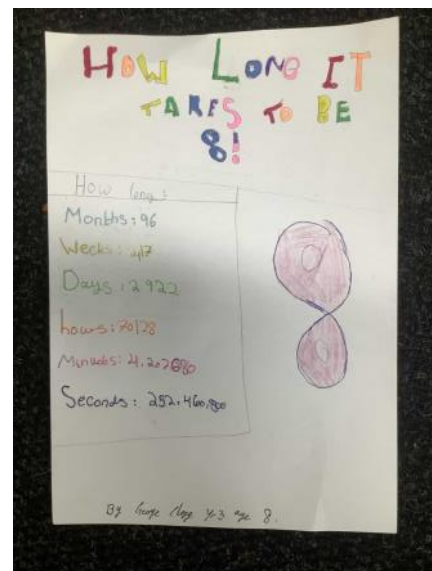
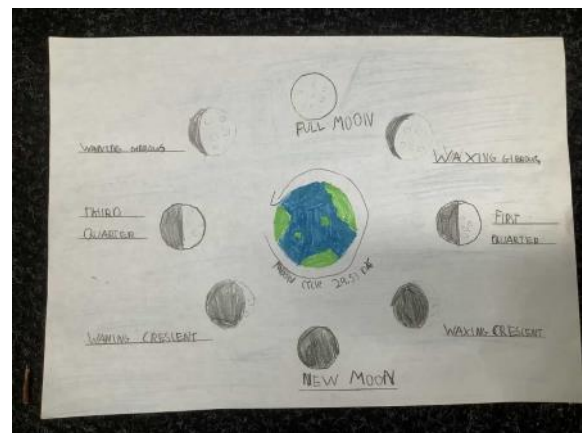
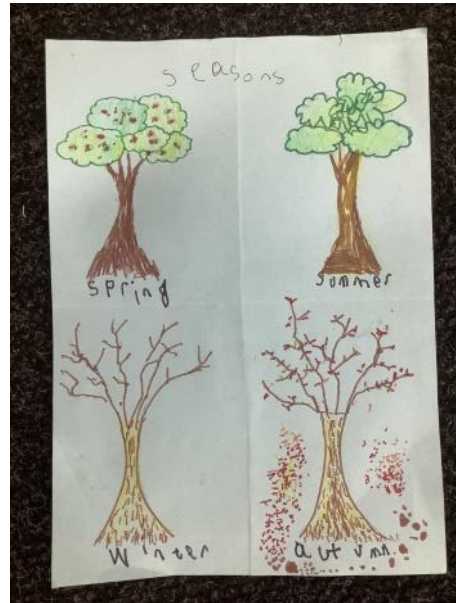
Garden News

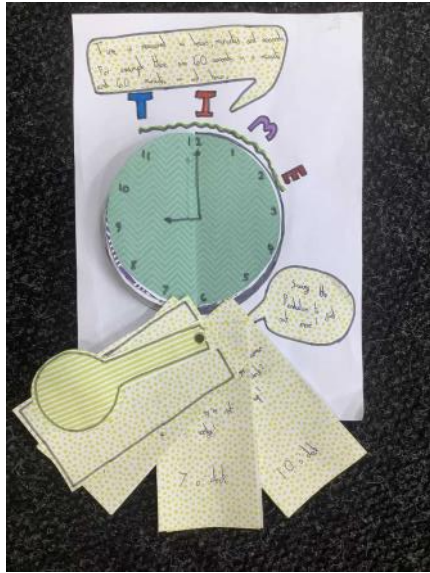
The eagle-eyed amongst you will have spotted the three beautiful troughs by the school garden, packed full of tulips. We owe Dylan in Y4 a very big thank you for this amazing display as they were bought and planted by him to mark his birthday back in September.



SCIENCE POSTER COMPETITION

Earlier in the term children were invited to take part in this year's Science Poster competition as part of British Science week and we can now reveal the school winners: Federico Y1, Sebastian Y2, George Y3, Emilia Y4 and Joshua Y6. Their entries have been uploaded to the British Science week website for judging.





Advert for MDS

Please let the school office know if you are interested in being a Mid-day Supervisor at St James'. We do have vacancies at present and if you would like to consider this please let us know. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about the role.

OTHER NEWS

Sofia and Perla were very excited to have been featured on the "Junior Explorer Club" page of the National Geographic May issue. It explained about their sailing trip around the Channel Islands and France last Summer.



AWARDS

KS2 Awards

Year	Respect in class	Pride in work
Year 3	Olivia R	Lucas
Year 4	Aidan	Ava
Year 5	Delphine	Fletcher
Year 6	Douglas	Amelia

Congratulations to **Sophia R** in Y3 who was the winner of the Courtesy Cup this week.